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СТРАНОВЕДЕНИЕ

Методические указания
для студентов 1-2 курса всех специальностей

СТРАНОВЕДЕНИЕ

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Предназначаются для студентов второго курса специальностей ТИ и ТШ, и для студентов первого курса всех специальностей, изучающих английский язык. В пособии излагаются сведения об английской истории и литературе. Предлагаемые тексты и вопросы помогут студентам в освоении курса английского языка и ознакомлении с культурным наследием Великобритании.

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Great Britain today

Great Britain is a constitutional monarchy. The British constitution is not a single document. It consists partly of statutes (laws passed by Parliament) and of documents such as the Magna Carta (a charter passed in 1215 to limit the monarch's power). It also includes common law (laws based on custom and supported in the courts). Much of the Constitution is not even written. These unwritten parts include many important ideas and practices that have developed over the years.

Queen Elizabeth II is Britain's head of state. Her powers are largely ceremonial, however, and a Cabinet of ministers actually rules the country. The Cabinet is responsible to Parliament, which makes the laws of GB. The Parliament consists of the monarch, the House of Commons, and the House of Lords. The queen must approve all bills passed by Parliament before they become laws, but no monarch has rejected a bill since the early 1700's. The prime minister, who is usually the leader of the political party with the most seats in the House of Commons, serves as the head of government. The monarch appoints the prime minister after each general election. The prime minister selects about 100 ministers to head governmental offices and chooses the Cabinet. GB is a densely populated country, and about 93 per cent of the people live in urban areas. English is the official language, but some people in Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland speak their national language. Most of the British are descendants of the many early people who invaded GB, including the Celts, Romans, Angles, Saxons, Scandinavians, and Normans. However, since the late 1950's, many immigrants from Commonwealth countries have settled in GB. Their arrival has created housing and racial problems in the country's crowded urban areas.

There are many divisions in British life. Scotland and England have their national churches, and there are separate legal and educational systems in England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland. For centuries, the British people were also separated by a rigid class system. Most of these class barriers were greatly reduced during World War II.

GB (Great Britain)

Великобритания

constitutional monarchy	конституционная монархия
a densely populated country	густо населенная страна
Magna Carta	Великая хартия вольностей
Common law	Общее право
a monarch	монарх
the House of Commons	Палата Общин
the House of Lords	Палата Лордов
the head of government	Глава правительства
a descendant	потомок
class barriers	классовые барьеры

Questions and tasks:

- 1) What does the British constitution consist of?
- 2) What is Common Law?
- 3) What are the functions of Queen Elizabeth II and a Cabinet of ministers?
- 4) Which is the official language in Great Britain?
- 5) More people in GB live in the rural areas, don't they?
- 6) What can you say about class barriers in GB?

English History

History of England

The Earliest Men. The Celts.

In some parts of Britain one can see a number of huge stones standing in a circle. These are the monuments left by the earliest inhabitants of the country. The best-known stone-circle named Stonehenge dates from between 1900 and 1600 B. C. It is made of many upright stones, standing in groups of twos, 8,5 metres high. They are joined on the top by other flat 5 stones, each weighing about 7 tons. No one can tell how these large stones were moved, or from what places they were brought. Stonehenge - is a mystery to scholars. What was it used for? -As a burial place or a sacred place where early man worshipped the sun? About 3000 years B. C. the British Isles were

inhabited by a people who came to be known as the Iberians because some of their descendants are still found in the north of Spain (the Iberian Peninsular). The Iberians used stone weapons and tools. (The art of grinding and polishing was known to them). They could make smooth objects with sharp edges.

The Celts. 6th-3rd c. B. C. The Celtic tribes invaded Britain. Celtic tribes called the Picts penetrated to the north. Some Picts as well as Scots crossed over to Ireland and settled there. (Scotland).

Powerful Celtic tribes, the Britons held most of the country. (The island was called Britain after them). (Briton → British).

The Iberians were unable to fight back the attacks of the Celts (spears, swords, axes).

The Romans called them the Gauls. The Celts had no towns, lived in villages. They used copper, tin, iron. They kept large herds of cattle and sheep, cultivated crops, especially corn. The Celts worshiped Nature. They imagined the sky, the Sun, the Moon, the Earth, the sea to be ruled by beings like themselves, but much more powerful (Pagan gods, sacrificed animals and human beings). The druids lived near oak-trees (sacred places).

The Primitive Communal System. Tools and weapons. In primitive society there was no private property (no classes, no state system, no armed forces, no prisons, no courts).

Military leaders and their warriors later formed the tribal nobility.

The Welsh people are of the Celtic origin. In the Highlands of Scotland and western part of Ireland the people speak the language of Celtic origin.

Celts -	Кельты
an inhabitant-	обитатель
a stone-circle-	каменный круг
B.C. -	до нашей эры
A.D. -	наша эра
a mystery -	тайна
a scholar-	ученый
a burial place-	захоронение
a sacred place-	священное место
The Iberian Peninsular-	Иберийский полуостров

The Iberians -	Иберийцы
a spear-	копье
a sword-	меч
an axe-	топор
a herd-	стадо
a weapon-	оружие
a warrior-	воин
nobility-	знать

Questions and tasks:

- 1)What can we see in many parts of England?
- 2)What is the best-known Stone-Circle?
- 3)What does it look like?
- 4)Who inhabited the British Isles about 3000 B.C?
- 5)Speak about the Celts.
- 6)Describe the Primitive communal System.

Roman Conquest of Britain

The Romans were the most powerful people in the world. It was a slave society (the slaves and slave - owners). The army helped to protect wealth from against foreign enemies and to wage endless wars in order to conquer new lands and to seize more slaves. The Romans conquered all the countries, around the Mediterranean Sea. In the wars many thousands of prisoners were taken.

Unlike the Ancient East and Greece, where the land was cultivated chiefly by peasants, in Rome many slaves were engaged in agriculture.

France or Gaul as it was then called was conquered by Rome. The war against the Gauls, who were the Celtic tribes lasted for 8 years. Julius Caesar was appointed the Head of the Roman Army, which was sent to conquer Gaul. Caesar reached the Channel-and the Romans saw the white cliffs of the land of the British Celts.

In 55 B.C. a Roman Army of 10000 men crossed the Channel and invaded Britain. The Celts saw their ships approaching and rushed to attack the invaders in the sea as they were landing. The Celts made a

great impression on the Romans, who saw them for the first time in battle (hair and moustache were dyed red, legs and arms were painted blue), and the Romans had to return to Gaul.

In the next year, 54 B.C. Caesar came to Britain again, this time with larger forces (25000 men). The Celts fought bravely for their independence but they were not strong enough. The Romans were better trained and armed. They defeated the Celts in several battles.

In 43 A.D. a Roman army invaded Britain and conquered the South East. The Picts from the North. From time to time managed to raid the Roman part of the island, burn their villages and drive off their cattle and sheep.

Legions. Straight Roads (of several layers of stone, lime, mortar and gravel) (still exist to day). Bridges of stone; high walls, along which the Roman warriors were marching.

As a result of the conquest signs of Roman, civilisation spread over Britain/ They began to build towns, villas, baths (trade), markets, merchants sold goods. Every Roman town had a drainage system and good supply of pure water.

They were great road-makers (network of roads). Some forests were cleared, swamps were drained.

The Romans remained in Britain for about 4 centuries. In the 3rd and 4th centuries the power of the Roman Empire gradually weakened. The end of the 4 century found Germanic tribes invading the Western Roman Empire and the slaves who hated the Roman State were joining them by thousands. Early in the 5 century (407) the Roman legions were recalled from Britain to defend the central provinces of the Roman Empire from the attacks of the barbarian tribes, They didn't return to Britain and the Celts were left alone in the land.

a slave -	раб
a slave-owner -	рабовладелец
Society -	общество
to conquer -	завоевывать
The Mediterranean sea -	Средиземное море
Caesar -	Цезарь

Task : Speak about Roman Conquest of Britain.

The Anglo-Saxon conquest of Britain

From the middle of the 5th century the attacks of Germanic tribes from the Continent began, first the Jutes and then other Germanic tribes - the Saxons and the Angles began to migrate to Britain. The Saxons came from the territory lying between the Rhine and Elbe rivers which was later on called Saxony. The Jutes and the Angles came from the Jutland Peninsula.

In 449 the Jutes landed in Kent. It took more than hundred and fifty years for the Angles, the Saxons and the Jutes to conquer the country.

The final refuge of the Celts was Cornwall and Wales - the mountainous districts of the West and the northern part of the island (Scotland) where the Celts were still living in tribes and, later on, some independent states were formed. The Celts of Ireland remained independent too.

The Normans

In the 9th century while the Danes were plundering England another branch of Northmen who were related to the Danes were doing the same along the Northern coasts of France. They came to be called the Normans, a variation of the word "Northmen". The Normans settled down, on land conquered from the French king - a territory which is still called Normandy after these Normans.

As time went on they gradually mixed with the Anglo-Saxons among whom they lived. Thus they retained their Germanic language. The Normans who had settled down in France were now quite different from their Germanic forefathers. They lived among the French people, who were a different people, with different manners, customs and language. They had learned to speak the French language, and, in many ways, they had become the French themselves. They adopted their manners and customs, and their way of life.

The Normans lived under the rule of their own duke. By the 11th century the dukes of Normandy had become very powerful. Like other

French dukes and counts they made themselves practically independent. They coined their own money, made their own laws, held their own courts, built their own castles.

In 1066 William, the Duke of Normandy, began to gather an army to invade Britain. It took several years for William and his barons to subdue the whole of England. Soon after victory at Hastings the Normans encircled London and the Witenagemot had to acknowledge William as the lawful king of England. Thus the Norman duke became king of England - William I or, as he was generally known, William the Conqueror. He ruled England for 21 years (1066-1087).

the Jutes -	юты
the Saxons -	саксы
the Angles -	англы
the Rhine -	Рейн
the Elbe -	Эльба
refuge -	убежище
independence -	независимость
forefathers -	предки
a custom -	обычай
to adopt -	принять
way of life -	образ жизни
a duke -	герцог
to coin money -	чеканить монеты
to make laws -	создавать законы
a castle -	замок

Task:

1. Speak about The Anglo-Saxon Conquest of Britain.
2. Describe the Normans and Speak about the Norman Invasion.

EDWARD I (1272 – 1307)

Claim to fame

Respected as a strong king and a good soldier.

Beat the Welsh and gave them his baby son to be their prince – the Prince of Wales.

Edward beat Scots in battle so many times he became known as the “Hammer of the Scots”. He stole their coronation stone – the Stone of Scone. It’s still in Westminster Abbey and has been used for every coronation to this day.

Edward I was a very strong ruler, who led endless wars of conquest. He was succeeded by his son Edward II. The son was nothing like his father. Incompetent and frivolous, he gave all his attention to his numerous favorites who were disliked and despised. In the end he was deposed by his wife Isabella and her lover Roger Mortimer. But there was no question of any successor other than his son Edward III.

The Hundred Years’ War

The young king took after his grandfather. He was wise, courageous and ruthless.

Through his mother Isabella, the only surviving child of the French king Philip IV, he had a claim to the throne of France. At the same time, as a duke of Aquitaine, Edward III was still the king of France’s vassal. Such a situation was unbearable for young Edward III. So in 1337 he declared war on France. The war Edward began, later called the Hundred Years’ War, did not finally end until 1453, with the English Crown losing all its possessions in France except for Calais, a northern French port.

At first the English were far more successful than the French on the battlefield. The English army was experienced through its wars in Wales and in Scotland. It had learnt the value of being lightly armed, and rapid in movement. Its most important weapon was the Welsh longbow. It was very effective on the battlefield because of its quick rate of fire. Moreover, such arrows could go through most armour. The value of the longbow was proved in two victories, at Crecy in 1346 and

at Poitiers in 1356, where the French king himself was taken prisoner. The English captured a huge quantity of treasure, and it was said that after the battle of Poitiers every woman in England had a French bracelet on her arm. The French king bought his freedom for £500,000, an enormous amount of money in those days.

By the treaty, in 1360, Edward III was happy to give up his claim to the French throne because he had re-established control over areas previously held by the English Crown. The French recognised his ownership of all Aquitaine, including Gascony; parts of Normandy and Brittany, and the newly captured port of Calais.

But because the French king had only unwillingly accepted this situation the war did not end, and fighting soon began again. Most of this land, except for the port of Calais, was taken back by French forces during the next fifteen years. It was a warning that winning battles was much easier than winning wars.

EDWARD III (1327-1377)

Claim to fame

Fought against the Scots and the French but not at the same time.

Called himself the king of France even though he wasn't. The war with France went on for a long time, so long that King Edward died after reigning for 50 years.

Answer the questions:

- 1) Who was the successor (*преемник*) of Edward I?
- 2) What kind of ruler was Edward II?
- 3) Who took after his grandfather?
- 4) Why did Edward III have a claim to the throne of France?
- 5) When did he declare war on France?
- 6) What was this war called?
- 7) Were the English ultimately victorious in the Hundred Years' War?
- 8) Why were the English more successful on the battlefield than the French?

- 9) What was the most important English weapon?
- 10) Why was Edward III happy to give up his claim to the French throne in 1360?
- 11) Did the fighting begin again soon after? Why?

The Tudor family came to power after the Wars of the Roses. These were civil wars between the houses of York (white rose) and Lancaster (red rose), both of whom claimed the throne. Memories of the horrors of these wars were still alive when Henry VIII, who was just the second Tudor king crowned. The young King, handsome, gifted and athletic, did much for the glory of England. His talents were diverse — he was interested in music, books and sport. The young king paid a lot of attention to religious questions. He was a true catholic and by 1521 he had written an Anti-Lutheran book, for which a grateful Pope awarded him the title of Defender of the Faith. But only 10 years later Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church and set up his own Church of England. The king made himself the Supreme Head of this new Church, and began to close the monasteries. Henry did this because he was short of money and wanted the wealth of the monasteries for himself.

There were a lot of reasons for breaking away from Rome, but the main reason was a romantic one.

Only a few weeks after his coronation Henry married his brother's widow, a beautiful Spanish princess, Catherine of Aragon. She was nice and clever and was a true friend to her husband, but she failed to give him a son and after ten years of their marriage England had no heir. Henry thought that England would be weak if there were no king to follow him and he didn't want his country to have civil wars again.

This problem had troubled Henry for many years when he met Anne Boleyn, a lady-in-waiting. Anne was not a beauty and had six fingers on one of her hands, but the king fell madly in love with her. Henry asked the Pope to give him a divorce so that he could marry again and explained that Catherine had first been his elder brother's wife, who had died very young. He thought that it had been a sin to marry his brother's widow and that the absence of sons was his punishment.

But the Pope refused and that made the King of England break away from the Catholic Church. Henry also proclaimed Mary, the daughter he had by this marriage. illegitimate.

Henry divorced Catherine and married Anne Boleyn, but she didn't give him a son either and when Henry got tired of her he had her executed. By his second marriage Henry had another daughter, Elizabeth, whom he also proclaimed illegitimate.

Ten days after Ann Boleyn's execution the king married his third wife, Jane Seymour, who did give him a son, but died twelve days later.

All in all Henry VIII had six wives. As he grew older the king became suspicious and ruthless. His fifth wife, Catherine Howard, was beheaded in the Tower, and the last one, Catherine Parr, would have followed her. but she was lucky enough to survive the king.

King Henry VIII left three children: Mary by Catherine of Aragon, Elizabeth by Anne Boleyn and Edward, the Prince of Wales, by Jane Seymour. The children's father never thought that each of his children would rule England after him. He couldn't foresee either that his second daughter, Elizabeth, whom he never loved and proclaimed illegitimate, would become Queen Elizabeth I, the greatest monarch England has ever known.

Восстановите последовательность событий в жизни Генриха VIII.

- .nogarA fo enirehtaC decrovid yrneH (1 ↑
- nyeloB ennA dah yrneH (2 ↑executed.
- .nrob saw yrneH (3 ↑
- itna na etorw yrneH (4 ↑-Lutheran book.
- .suoicipsus dna sselhtur emaceb yrneH (5 ↑
- .nrob saw selaW fo ecnirP ,drawdE (6 ↑
- .nyeloB ennA deirram yrneH (7 ↑
- .emoR morf yawa ekorb yrneH (8 ↑
- .nrob saw yraM (9 ↑
- rneH (01 ↑y set up a new Church of England.
- .detucexe efiw htffif sih dah yrneH (11 ↑
- .nrob saw htebazile (21 ↑
- .nyeloB ennA htiw evol ni llef yrneH (31 ↑
- .nogarA fo enirehtaC deirram yrneH (41 ↑

.seiretsanom eht desolc yrneH (51 ↑
 myeS enaJ deirram yrneH (61 ↑our.
 .dnalgnE fo gniK emaceb yrneH (71 ↑
 .raaP enirehtaC deirram yrneH (81 ↑
 .deid yrneH (91 ↑

When Henry VIII died in 1547, his only son Edward became king. Edward was just nine years old, so first his uncle, the Duke of Somerset, and then the Duke of Northumberland ruled England in his name. The boy king Edward VI is memorable for opening new grammar schools which replaced the monastery schools, which had been closed by his father.

Unfortunately the reign of this clever and kind boy was short. It was difficult to be healthy in the XVI century, even for the King. Diseases were often killers and doctors were generally helpless. Edward was never in good health and after having had first measles and then small-pox, he quickly got worse.

Everybody knew that his sister Mary was next in line to the throne. It was clear that if Edward VI died and she succeeded, the Roman Catholic religion would be established again in England, because Mary was the daughter of Catherine of Aragon, a true catholic. This possibility troubled the minds of those who showed themselves good Protestants during the reign of Edward VI. They liked the new religion very much because they got a lot of money from the sale of monastery lands. It was very important for them to have a Protestant monarch inherit the English crown. So a group of nobles tried to put Lady Jane Grey, a Protestant, on the throne. But Jane was Queen for only nine days. Mary succeeded in entering London and took control of the kingdom. Ordinary people helped Mary because they were angered by the greed of the Protestant nobles.

However, Mary's reign was terrible for England. Mary was unwise in her policy, her beliefs and her private life. For political, religious and family reasons she chose to marry King Philip of Spain. It was her first big mistake. The ordinary people disliked the marriage as they didn't want a foreigner to control England. After much debate Parliament unwillingly agreed to Mary's marriage, and it only accepted Philip as king of England for Mary's lifetime.

Very soon Mary made a second mistake. She made an attempt to bring England back to the Catholic Church. When she met with resistance the Queen began burning the Protestants. Many Protestants had to leave the kingdom to avoid the risk of being arrested or executed. The prisons were filled with the chief Protestants. The bloody Queen also had her cousin Lady Jane Grey executed when she refused to become a Catholic. Mary also made plans to do the same with her sister Elizabeth, who could become an obvious leader for Protestant revolt. Her husband Philip, however, disliked the idea of killing a Princess.

Mary's third and final mistake became fatal for England. The Queen's husband was at war with France and asked England for help. England didn't want to start a war with France just for his sake, but it so happened that the King of France, at this very time, was planning to attack the English coast. So war was declared and the Queen was able to help her husband. The English were defeated, however, and the losses they met with in France were great. Mary never recovered from that blow.

Finally the people of England got so angry with her that only the fact that Mary herself was dying prevented a popular rebellion. In England this woman was called Bloody Mary and as Bloody Mary she will be remembered with horror.

MARY I (1553-1558)

Claim to fame

Married the King of Spain, then got England drawn into Spain's battles with France. Her unpopular marriage caused an English rebellion led by Thomas Wyatt. Wyatt lost the first battle and was executed.

Fanatical Catholic — had Protestants burned if they refused to return to the Catholic faith.

A sickly and unhappy woman who went down in history as "Bloody Mary", though, she wasn't cruel in herself. She was just trying to do what she thought right.

ELIZABETH I

When Elizabeth was born in September 7, 1533, no one had any idea that she would become the queen of England only twenty five years later. Her birth was a big disappointment to her father, Henry VIII, who had turned his world upside down, divorced his first wife Catherine of Aragon broke with the Catholic Church so that he could marry again. But it was not simply passion for Anne Boleyn that caused this, though winning Anne became an obsession with Henry: his real passion was for the son, who would secure the Tudor line on the throne and save England from disputes about succession that might cause the repeat of the chaotic time of the War of the Roses of the previous century. Elizabeth was not three years old when her mother, Anne Boleyn was executed, so much was the king disappointed by her failure to give him a son. Soon after her mother's execution the girl was proclaimed illegitimate.

Life at the court of her father influenced a young Lady Princes' world-view. Her father, the king married four more times and had one more of his wives beheaded. It was after that second execution, she evidenced when an eight year old Elizabeth declared "I'll never marry". At that time nobody knew that she would stay true to her promise. During the reign of her half-sister Mary I (Bloody Mary) Elizabeth's life was in danger. Mary was a Catholic queen in a protestant country and the existence of a protestant heir, Elizabeth, was a constant worry to Mary, who was justly hated by her people. Thus Elizabeth was firstly imprisoned in the Tower then at Woodstock, but Mary never got the courage to have her half-sister executed.

At the age of twenty-five Elizabeth became the Queen of England to the great delight of the people. As far as her personality was concerned she inherited very little from either her father or her mother. She had Henry's red hair, his intelligence, his physical energy, but not his ability to take quick decisions, his cold cruelty and his disregard of everything except his personal advantage and pleasure. She had her mother's charm, but not her daring and her irresponsibility. But Elizabeth's destiny and all her actions were based on the fact that she was the daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn — of the father who

was a great king and national leader, and the mother who represented a real Protestant, the revolutionary movement of the century.

As a monarch Elizabeth inherited a very troublesome country. That is why the age of Elizabeth is remembered as one of a great development. During her reign the religious compromise dominated the Church of England and certainly she played a large part in it herself. It was under Elizabeth that England finally freed itself from the threat of invasion from Spain as she defeated the Spanish Armada. She also suppressed the rebellion in Ireland. That contributed to the growth of English prestige at home and abroad. In fact Elizabethan age is called the golden age of England. It was the time of English Renaissance. Thanks to printing an interest in art and literature spread far beyond the court. There was a wonderful harvest of art, music, poetry and most importantly of theatre. In Shakespeare (1564—1616) England produced its greatest genius. Arts were greatly encouraged by the Queen herself.

The threat to this glorious reign was presented by England's weak neighbour Scotland. For all true Catholics Elizabeth was still illegitimate and there was a "better" heir to the Tudor throne, Mary Stuart the Queen of Scots, a catholic. She was a granddaughter of Henry VII by his daughter Margaret. The relationship of two cousins has fascinated people over four hundred years and their characters have often been contrasted. Mary represented Medieval ages with their courtship and admiration for beauty. She was emotional, charming and obstinate. Elizabeth was a woman of a new Renaissance age — cautious and wise. But the greatest difference between the two of them was that Elizabeth was Queen of England and Mary was Queen of Scotland. Elizabeth was Queen of a prosperous and powerful kingdom, and Mary Queen of a poor, weak and lawless one. Elizabeth had loyal advisers and Mary's advisers were traitors.

But they also had a lot in common as both were cultured, intelligent and brave. As soon as Mary I of England died Mary Stuart claimed she was the only lawful heir to the English throne.

However in the meantime the two queens have become friendlier with each other and Mary married an English nobleman Lord Darnley. The choice was made for her by Elizabeth. The marriage proved to be a bitter disappointment and in February 1567 Darnley was found murdered. Mary was suspected to order this murder and put in prison.

She had to flee to England as a penniless refugee and seek her royal cousin's protection. The shelter she was given turned out to be another prison where Mary spent nineteen years. This long imprisonment did not prevent Mary from constantly plotting against the Queen of England. Mary was also found guilty of killing her husband, Lord Darnley. Elizabeth was reluctant to have a monarch executed, but Mary's presence was a constant cause of Catholic riots and plots. Mary Stuart was executed on 7 February 1587 aged forty-four. Elizabeth pretended she had known nothing about it and accused her counsellors of disloyalty.

In March, 1603 Elizabeth died. She never married and was childless. At the end when she could no longer speak, she made a sign that James, the son of Mary Stuart should succeed her.

There is something more to be said about Elizabeth. Her position of a monarch does not explain the devotion which she inspired in her nation. There should be some reason why people worshipped her and even sent to the block at her orders called out "God save the Queen!" and why most historians for four hundred years have tried to pay more attention to her successes than to her faults. There must be something that won them over and that we can not easily understand today — her charm, her courage, her charisma and her magic.

Answer the questions.

- 1) When was Elizabeth born?
- 2) Why was her birth a big disappointment for Henry VIII?
- 3) Why did Henry VIII want to have the son so much?
- 4) What happened to Elizabeth after her mother's execution?
- 5) Why was Elizabeth's life in danger during the reign of her half-sister Mary I?
- 6) At what age did Elizabeth become a queen?
- 7) What did Elizabeth inherit from her parents?
- 8) Why is Elizabethan age called the golden age of England?
- 9) Why did Scotland present a threat to England?
- 10) Describe Mary Stuart and Elizabeth I.
- 11) Why did Mary Stuart have to flee to England?
- 12) Why was she put in prison?

13) Why did Mary Stuart have to be executed?

14) Who succeeded Elizabeth on the throne and why?

previous – предыдущий

he was succeeded – его сменил на троне

was nothing like his father – не шел ни в какое сравнение

incompetent and frivolous – неспособный и легкомысленный

despised – презираемый

was deposed – был свергнут

took after his grandfather — пошел в деда

ruthless – безжалостный

duke – герцог

Calais – Кале

was experienced – имела опыт

It had learnt the value of being lightly armed. - Она знала цену легкой экипировки.

Longbow – лук в рост человека

Crecy – Креси

Poitiers – Пуатье

a huge quantity of treasure – огромное количество сокровищ

treaty – договор

re-established – восстановил

Aquitaine – Аквитания

Gascony – Гасконь

memories – воспоминания

horror – ужас

crowned – коронованный

glory – процветание

diverse – разносторонний

a true catholic – правоверный католик

Anti-Lutheran – анти - лютеранский

Defender of the Faith — защитник веры

broke away from the Catholic Church – порвал с Католической церковью

set up his own Church of England – основал свою собственную Англиканскую церковь

Supreme Head – Верховный Глава

he was short of money – у него не было денег
wealth – богатство
Catherine of Aragon – Екатерина Арагонская
heir – наследник
Anne Boleyn – Анна Болейн
lady-in-waiting – фрейлина (королевы)
fell madly in love — безумно влюбился
divorce – развод
absence – отсутствие
proclaim – объявить
illegitimate – незаконнорожденный
he had her executed – он казнил ее
Jane Seymour – Джейн Сеймур
who did give him a son – которая все-таки родила ему сына
all in all – всего
suspicious – подозрительный
ruthless – безжалостный
Catherine Howard – Екатерина Говард
to be beheaded – быть обезглавленным
Catherine Parr I'kieOenn – Екатерина Парр
was lucky enough to survive the king – ей повезло пережить короля
foresee – предугадать
to get rid of— избавиться от
the only – (зд.) единственным
the Duke of Somerset – герцог Сомерсет
the Duke of Northumberland – герцог Нортумберленд
in his name – от его имени
Edward VI is memorable – Эдуарда VI помнят
reign – правление
diseases – болезни
measles – корь
small-pox – оспа
to succeed – (зд.) унаследовать
inherit – наследовать
was unwise in her policy – вела неумную политику
beliefs – верования

it only accepted Philip as King of England for Mary's lifetime – он признал Филиппа королем Англии до тех пор, пока Мария будет жива

resistance – сопротивление

for his sake – ради его блага

blow – удар

Bloody Mary – Мария Кровавая (Кровавая королева Мария)

passion – страсть

obsession – навязчивая идея

to secure – (зд.) сохранить

dispute – спор

that might cause the repeat of the chaotic time of the War of the Roses – которые могли бы вызвать повторение смутного времени периода войны Роз

failure – (зд.) неудача

court – двор (королевский)

to influence – влиять

to evidence – быть свидетелем

to stay true to her promise – остаться верной обещанию

in danger – в опасности

existence – существование

justly – справедливо

thus – таким образом

was firstly imprisoned – сначала стала пленницей

delight – восторг

As far as her personality was concerned – что касается ее как личности

and his disregard of everything – и то, что он не считался ни с чем

daring – смелость

irresponsibility – безответственность

troublesome – (зд.) неблагоприятный

to dominate – преобладать

to suppress – подавить

to contribute – способствовать

Elizabethan age – елизаветинский век

Renaissance – Возрождение

thanks to – благодаря

to encourage – поощрять

threat – угроза

true – (зд.) истинный

to fascinate – вызвать острый интерес

courtship – ухаживание

obstinate – упрямый

cautious – осторожный

prosperous – процветающий

lawless – беззаконный

loyal – преданный

traitor – предатель

in the meantime – со временем

proved to be – оказалось

Mary was suspected to order this murder – подозревали, что Мария заказала это убийство

refugee – беженка

did not prevent Mary from constantly plotting – не помешали

Марии постоянно плести заговоры

was found guilty of killing – была признана виновной в убийстве

to be reluctant – не очень хотеть

devotion – преданность

to inspire – внушать

block – эшафот

charisma – харизма, притягательная сила

OLIVER CROMWELL

One of the chief threads that make up the pattern of English history, a thread that runs through it from the earliest times almost to our present day, is the struggle between the king and the people (or the Parliament) to decide which should be supreme. At first and for many centuries the king was all-powerful, but gradually his powers were reduced and those of Parliament built up until now it is the Parliament that, in all but name, is the chief power in the land.

And in this long struggle one of the most decisive moments came in the seventeenth century. It was during this period that the political parties as we know them today began to take shape. Charles I was on the throne. His portrait, painted by Van Dyck, has given us a vivid

impression of his handsome face with its sad, thoughtful eyes, his kingly manner and his charm. We know that as a man he was admirable, sincerely religious, a faithful husband and a loving father. As a king he was dishonourable, and untrustworthy. He was brought up to believe in the “Divine Right of Kings”, and hated the idea of a Parliament, believing that its only purpose was to vote the money that he thought necessary. To get the money he lightly gave any promise that Parliament asked for, and just as lightly broke that word of honour. Time and again he was trusted and time and again he was false to that trust, until it was forced on the people that no promise that he gave was of any value. At last, when Charles entered the House of Commons itself with the intention of arresting the five men who were the leaders of the party that opposed him, people realised that if freedom and truth and justice were to live at all there was no other choice but to resist him by force.

The actual fighting in the Civil War broke out in 1642. At first the tide of battle went completely against the Parliamentary forces, and they were hopelessly defeated in almost every battle. It was natural that they should be. The majority of the country landowners and the wealthy men, most of whom had been trained in arms and had weapons and horses, supported Charles. He had, too, skilful leaders like Prince Rupert of the Rhine; he had all the gay, pleasure-loving, fashionable gentlemen of England, the Cavaliers as they were called, on his side. The Royalists were far more attractive than the Parliamentarians. They had learning, courtesy and good manners. They loved poetry and music and art; their long, curled hair and gay-coloured clothes were the outward expression of an inward gaiety and love of the beautiful.

The Parliamentarians had none of this charm. They were mostly Puritans, men who wanted a simpler and plainer form of religion, and, among the extremists at least, only too often this showed itself in an actual dislike of the beautiful merely because it was beautiful. It led them to destroy pictures, the lovely stained-glass windows of churches and often the churches themselves.

The Puritans, too, bore the outward signs of their beliefs; their dress was plain and dull in colouring; their hair was cut close – the Cavaliers called them “Roundheads” – their faces were habitually sour. To them all pleasures, even the most innocent, were sinful things.

They scorned learning and art; they were bitterly intolerant of the opinions of their enemies and the pleasures of their friends.

But – on the other side of the picture – they had a courage that no defeats could crush; they had a religious faith that inspired every act of their lives. For them God was a living, daily reality. “If they knew nothing of the works of philosophers and poets they were deeply read in the writings of God; if their names were not found in the book of courtiers they were written in the Book of Life. Their palaces were houses not made with hands; their crowns were of glory that should never fade away. On the rich and the learned, on nobles and priests, they looked down with scorn, for they knew themselves to be rich in a more precious treasure, nobles by a greater right, priests by the laying on of a mightier hand. Thus, the Puritan was made up of two different men; the one all humbleness, gratitude, feeling; the other proud, calm, unbending. He humbled himself in the dust before his Maker; but he set his foot on the neck of his king. The intensity of their feelings on one subject made them calm on all others. They had their smiles and their tears, but not for the things of this world. For them death had lost its terrors and pleasure its charm”.

But courage and religious faith alone are not enough to win battles. Leadership and training are necessary too, and it was the hour – the darkest hour for the Parliamentary forces – that brought the man, Oliver Cromwell.

Cromwell was a country gentleman, a fanner of Huntingdonshire, with no desire to be known in the world. He had wanted to leave England and find a new home in America where he would be free to worship as he wished, but the king had forbidden him to leave England. He had been in Parliament, a rough, ungraceful figure, unskilful as a speaker but known for his strength of character and his deep sincerity and religious feeling. Cromwell saw that if the Parliament army was to be victorious it must not only be as fearless and as full of faith in its own cause as the Cavaliers were in theirs, but it must be as well trained as Charles’s army – and, if possible, better trained.

He went to the eastern counties and gathered soldiers there, men specially picked for their courage, strength, horsemanship and religious feeling. He said: “A few honest men are better than numbers. If you choose good, honest men to be captains of horse, honest men will

follow them.” He trained his men in complete obedience, filled them with the desire to fight for freedom, Parliament and religion, combining the spiritual and the practical as in his famous order: “Trust in God, and keep your powder dry.”

Then when they were ready he led them into battle, and on that day his army – the Ironsides as they came to be known – did not give way. For the first time the Cavaliers had been held.

Several battles were won by the Parliamentarians, and finally at Naseby, 1645, the king’s forces were completely defeated.

Cromwell was now leader of the whole Parliamentary forces; the king’s army was scattered and the king himself was in flight. Seeing that his cause was lost, he gave himself up, and was imprisoned in Carisbrooke Castle in the Isle of Wight. Finally he was brought to trial in London for having made war on his people and for being an enemy of his country. He was found guilty and sentenced to death. At his trial he behaved nobly and firmly, refusing to defend himself before a court which, he said, had no power to try him, and he received the death sentence with a calm courage.

Four days later, after a sad farewell to his younger children in St. James’s Palace, he walked across St. James’s Park through the snow to Whitehall and there, outside the palace, he was beheaded. Whatever may have been his faults in life, he bore himself like a real king in his last moments.

Cromwell now became ruler of England, not as king but as “Protector of the Commonwealth”, and for ten years he ruled England firmly but well. He could be merciless – his treatment of Ireland is one of the blots on his character – yet he loved mercy, and in an age that was bitter with religious intolerance he was nobly tolerant. “The State, in choosing men to serve it”, Cromwell wrote before the battle of Marston Moor, “takes no notice of their opinions. If they are willing, faithfully to serve it, that is enough”. And from the field of Naseby, just after the victory, he wrote to the Speaker of the House of Commons: “Honest men served you faithfully in this action. Sir, they are trustworthy. I beg you in the name of God not to discourage them. He that risks his life for the liberty of his country, should have liberty of his conscience. In things of the mind we look for no compulsion but that of light and reason”.

It was he who really united England, Scotland and Ireland, who enforced justice and order at home and made England stronger and more respected abroad than she had ever been before in the whole of her history, and if he at times acted like a tyrant, he did it because; in this, as in the execution of Charles, he saw that this was the only means of bringing order and peace in England.

His rough, harsh nature, like his stern, harsh face, did not inspire affection – though under the rough outward appearance there was kindness – but his strength, his unshakable honesty and his sincere religion made him respected as one of the greatest Englishmen.

Answer the questions.

1. “In this long struggle one of the most decisive moments came in the seventeenth century.” What struggle is referred to? Why was this a decisive time?
2. Why did the Parliamentarians decide to resist Charles I by force?
3. Why did the Parliamentarians suffer defeat at first ?
4. If you had been living in the seventeenth century how would you have been able to tell a Cavalier from a Puritan ?
5. How did Cromwell bring about military success for the Parliamentarians ?
6. How does Cromwell’s order, “Trust in God and keep your powder dry”, combine “the spiritual and the practical”?
7. What were the main things that Cromwell did for England?

English Literature

Anglo – Saxon Literature and the Literature of the Norman Period

In the 7th – 11th centuries the culture of the early Britons changed greatly under the influence of Christianity. The monasteries where the art of reading and writing was practiced became the centers of almost all the learning and education in the country. No wonder many poets and writers imitated those Latin books about the early Christians, and they also made up many stories of their own about saints.

Though the poets were English, they wrote in Latin.

A writer of this time was Bede. His famous book “The History of the English Church” was well known in France and in Italy because the people of the Middle Ages considered it a scientific book. The book is important and interesting for us because it shows what the country was like thirteen hundred years ago and how men acted and thought at that time.

BEOWULF.

As you know, in very old times people had no books. They could not read or write. In their free time they gathered together to tell stories and sing songs. At that time there were men who walked about the country, and stopped now at one place, now another. They sang long songs about great heroes and great events. These men were called “bards”. People loved to listen to their songs and stories.

Later, when some of the people learned to read and write, they wrote down many of these songs. One of them was **THE SONG OF BEOWULF**, which tells about a brave and strong hero who fought for the good of the people.

1

A long, long time ago the king of Denmark was Hrothgar. He was brave, just and kind, and his people loved him. He built a large and beautiful palace for himself and his warriors. Men came from all parts of the country to look at the fine palace. Every evening many people gathered in the palace, and they ate and drank, told stories and sang song, danced and laughed.

Not far from the palace there was a large lake. A great monster lived in that lake. His name was Grendel. Grendel heard the singing and laughing in Hrothgar's palace every evening and did not like it. He was lonely in his lake and he was very angry with the warriors because they were making merry. He got more and more angry every day.

Later one night Grendel got out of his lake and went to Hrothgar's palace. He soon came near it. It was still and dark inside, and Grendel went in. There were many warriors in the palace, but they were all asleep. Grendel killed one of the warriors and drank his blood, too. That night the monster killed thirty warriors and drank their blood. Then he took the bodies of the dead men and back to his lake.

The next night Grendel came to the palace again. Again he killed thirty warriors and drank their blood and carried their dead bodies into the lake.

Night after night, month, winter after winter the terrible monster came to the palace and killed men. There was no laughing and singing now. Their spears, arrows and swords could not kill Grendel. this went on for twelve years.

2

On the other side of the sea was the country of the Geats. There was a young man among the Geats whose name was Beowulf. He was very brave and strong. He was the strongest man in the whole country. He was stronger than thirty men . one day he heard about the terrible monster Grendel, who killed thirty warriors every night in Denmark. Beowulf wanted to help King Hrothgar. He found fourteen strong, brave warriors among his friends, got on a ship with them and sailed off across the sea. They sailed the whole night, and in the morning they came to Denmark.

When they got off the ship, they man on a horse. He was one of King Hrothgar's warriors. "Who are you and what are you doing here?" he asked them.

"We are warriors from the country of the Geats," answered Beowulf. "We know about Grendel. We want to help you to fight the monster."

The warrior took Beowulf and his friends to Hrothgar's place. King Hrothgar smiled when he saw the Geats.

“I am glad to see you that your task will not be easy. You must know that many warriors spent a night in the place. They tried to kill the monster, but they are all dead now.”

“I am not afraid,” said Beowulf, “I shall stay in the place for the night and meet Grendel in the dark.”

Grendel appeared in the middle of the night. He quickly entered the palace, killed one of the sleeping warriors and began to drink his blood, as he always did. But at that moment he saw Beowulf, and a terrible fight began. They fought for a long time. Grendel was very strong, but Beowulf was stronger. He caught Grendel by the arm and tore it off. The monster howled and ran out of the palace. He ran back to his lake and died there.

3

In the morning King Hrothgar and his men came to the palace. They looked with great surprise at Grendel’s arm, which was hanging from the ceiling in the middle of the palace. Then they went to the lake. The water of the lake was red with Grendel’s blood.

People from all parts of the country came to look at Beowulf and thank him. Everybody was very glad. Till late at night they talked, sang and laughed in the palace as before.

At night everybody went to sleep. But the troubles of Hrothgar and his men were not over. An ugly witch came out of the lake and quickly ran to the palace. She was Grendel’s mother. She ran into the palace, caught one of the warriors, killed him and carried him to the lake.

“I ask you to help me once more, brave Beowulf,” said Hrothgar.

“I shall gladly help you, King Hrothgar” answered Beowulf. “let us go to the lake once. I shall kill this witch.”

They got on their horses and rode to the lake. When they reached it, they saw that the lake was not quiet and its water was black. They waited. It became cold and dark. The witch did not appear. The warriors did not know what to do. Then Beowulf got off his horse and jumped into the lake.

When his feet touched the bottom, the witch sprang on him and dove and ran into it. And here he was very surprised. There was no water in the cave. In the middle of floor there was a bright fire. In the

light of the fire Beowulf saw a magic sword on the wall. He quickly took it and killed the witch.

At that moment the sun appeared over his head, and he saw the dead body of Grendel in a corner of the cave.

Beowulf took the magic sword and came out of the lake. His friends were happy to see him alive.

In the palace Beowulf told King Hrothgar and his warriors about his fight with the witch. King Hrothgar thanked Beowulf many times and gave him and his men many rich presents. When Beowulf and his friends were going home, many people came to say good-bye to him and to thank him again and again.

Discussion

1. Why was Grendel angry with the warriors?
2. Find sentences in the text to show how strong Beowulf was.
3. How did Beowulf kill Grendel ?
4. Describe in detail the fight of Beowulf and the witch.
5. What do you think: why did people write The Song of Beowulf?
6. With what heroes of Russian literature can you compare Beowulf? Why?

One of the greatest kings of England was Alfred who is famous not only for having built the first navy but for trying to enlighten his people. He drew up a code of laws. To him the English owe the famous Anglo – Saxon Chronicle, which may be called the first history of the early Britons and includes miniature sagas. Various writers of different times wrote for the Anglo – Saxon Chronicles.

In the year 1066, the Norman Duke William Crossed the channel and conquered the English in the great battle fought at Hastings. Within five years William the Conqueror was complete master of the whole of England.

Most of the English writers and poets about whom we are going to speak were educated Universities. In 1168 some professors founded schools at the town of Oxford, which formed in 1209 at Cambridge.

In the first half of the 14th century king of England was Edward III. This powerful feudal lord wished to make himself king France as well. Wishing to make his people believe that he defended English trade, the king made war with France in 1337. This war is now called the Hundred Years' War because it lasted over a hundred years.

GEOFFRY CHAUCER (1340-1400).

The greatest writer of the 14th century was Geoffrey Chaucer. He was born in 1340 in London. At 17 he was page to a lady at the court of Edward III. At 20 he was in France and was then taken prisoner by the French. When he returned to England his education was none the worse for that, though he had not been to a university.

Chaucer's earliest poems were written in imitation of the French romances. During 1373 and the next few years, Chaucer travelled much and lived a busy life. He went to France, and made three trips to Italy.

Chaucer was well read in the old Roman authors Italian literature taught him the meaning of national literature.

In 1384 Chaucer wrote his masterpiece, the "Canterbury Tales".

It was a long time ago in the 14th century.

One fine April evening some people men at an inn in London. These people wanted to go the town of Canterbury. It was a long journey. To make it shorter and more interesting they thought of telling stories on their way. Each of them had to tell two stories on the way to Canterbury and two on the way back.

It was written 600 years ago, but it is still read today. The Canterbury Tales are translated into many languages, and people in many countries know the book and its author.

Here is a story from the book.

THREE YOUNG MEN, DEATH AND A BAG OF GOLD.

1

Three young men were sitting in an inn. They were drinking wine and making merry. Suddenly they heard a noise outside. They looked out of the window and saw some people carrying a coffin.

"Who is dead?" they asked.

The innkeeper told them the name of the dead man. It was the name of their friend, also a young man. The three young men were very much surprised. They could not believe their ears. But the inn keeper said, "Yes, it is true. Your friend is dead. Death takes young and old. He takes many people. There is a village not far from here. Every day Death kills somebody in that village. The people there are nearly all dead. Death lives in that village, I think."

Our three young friends were drinking wine, so they did not understand quite clearly what the innkeeper said. They thought that Death really lived not far from that place, and were very angry with Death for killing their friend. They said, "let's kill Death! Let's do it before night comes."

"Be careful," said innkeeper, "if you meet Death, he will kill you, too."

"We are not afraid," answered the young men. "We shall go and look for Death. And we shall be brothers, and we shall defend each other. And when we find Death, we shall kill him."

With these words they left the inn and went along the road. Soon they met a very old man. They asked him, "Do you know where we can find Death?"

"Oh, yes," replied the old man, "it is not difficult to find Death. Do you see that wood? Go there and you will find him under an old oak."

The young men thanked the old man and went into the wood. Soon they saw a very large old oak, they saw a bag full of gold money under it. They thought only about the gold.

"Fine!" said one of them. "Now we shall be very rich. Let's take this gold to the house of one of us divide it into three parts. Let's go! Quick!"

"Wait," said another. "Listen to me. We cannot carry all this gold money now, in the daytime. We shall meet people on the way, and they will ask us questions. 'What are you carrying? Whose gold is it? Where did you get so much gold?' And if we saw that we found the money in this wood, they won't believe us. No, my friends, we cannot go now. We must stay here till night. At night, when it is dark and people are asleep, we can take the gold home and divide it."

"You are right, " said the third. "We must stay here till night. Only it's a long time to wait, and soon we shall be hungry. Let one of us go to town and buy some wine and something to eat."

So the youngest of them went to town, and the other two remained under the oak with the gold money.

2

Now you will see what kind of friends these young men were. When the two of them who stayed there under the oak were sitting and waiting for the third, one of them said, "Look here, I don't want to divide this gold into three parts, do you? Can't we divide it into two parts, between you and me?"

"Why not?" said the other. "But how can we do it?"

"Oh, it's very simple, you fool! Two are stronger than one. When he comes back, we can easily kill him, that's all, and all the gold will be ours!"

The two young men liked the plan very much and they began to wait for their friend.

And what was their friend thinking about at that time? About the gold, of course. He was thinking how good it was to have so much money. "But" he was saying to himself, "if we divide it into three parts, there won't be so much! I wish I could have all of it for myself!"

He thought and thought, and at last he had an idea. "I shall poison them," he said.

He knew a man in the town who sold poison to kill rats. He went to that man and bought some poison from him. Then he went and bought some bread and meat, and three bottles of wine.

When the young man left the town, he stopped at a place where nobody could see him, put the poison into two of the bottles of the

bottles of wine, and hurried to the old oak to join his friends. He wanted very much to have all the money for himself.

When he reached the oak, the other two were waiting for him with their knives ready, and they killed him at once. They were very glad: the gold was all theirs. They opened the bottles and drank all the wine. Soon they were dead, too.

This is how the three young men found Death.

Discussion

1. How did the three young men learn about the death of their friend?
2. What did they decide to do?
3. What made the young men forget about Death.
4. Find sentences in the text to prove that the three young men were not real friends.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (1564-1616).

In the eighteenth century a serious study of Shakespeare's works was started and that, in turn, led to study of his life. A good many facts were discovered but a lot is still unknown.

William Shakespeare was born in the heart of England at Stratford-on-Avon in 1564.

Shakespeare's mother, Mary Arden, was one of the daughters of a farmer. His father, John Shakespeare, was a glover and wool dealer. We have no definite information about the poet's education, but his works show him to be familiar with the Latin books taught in the Grammar School. When little over eighteen he married Anne Hathway and had three children. Soon afterwards he left Stratford for London.

At twenty-eight we find him well-known in London as an actor and reviser of old plays. A few years later his genius found expression as an original dramatist. Many of his plays were staged at a London theatre called "The Globe".

Shakespeare is known as a writer of delightful comedies and historical dramas. His comedies "A Midsummer Night's Dream", "The Two Gentlemen of Verona", "All's Well that Ends Well" and others

are light and bright. His historical plays – The First, Second and Third Parts of “Henry VI”, “Richard III”, the tragedies – “Romeo and Juliet”, “Hamlet, Prince of Denmark”, “Othello”, “King Lear”, “Macbeth”, “Anthony and Cleopatra” – strike by the depth of thought. His plays, translated into the world. Shakespeare was highly appreciated by writers and scholars who often quoted Shakespeare. Shakespeare died at the age of fifty-two. He was buried in Stratford Church.

“The Globe” –	“Глобус”
a glover –	перчаточник
a wool dealer –	торговец шерстью
to be familiar with [fə'miljə] –	быть хорошо знакомым
delightful [di'laitful] –	восхитительный, очаровательный
to perform on the stage [prə'fɔ:m] –	играть на сцене
to appreciate [ə'pri:ʃieit] –	оценить
to quote [kwout] –	цитировать

Questions and tasks:

1. When and where was Shakespeare born?
2. What was his father?
3. What was his mother?
4. What did Shakespeare do in London?
5. What works did he write?

THE LIST OF SHAKESPEARE'S WORKS

Comedies

“The Two Gentlemen of Verona”
 “The Comedy of Errors”
 “The Taming of the Shrew”
 “Love's Labour 's Lost”
 “All 's Well that Ends Well”
 “A Midsummer Night 's Dream”
 “Much Ado about Nothing”
 “The Merry Wives of Windsor”

“Twelfth Night”

Tragi – Comedie

“The merchant of Venice”

“Measure for Measure”

“Troilus and Cressida”

“Timon of Athens”

Historical Plays

The first, second and third parts of “King Henry VI”

“The Life and Death of King John”

“The Tragedy of King Richard II”

“The Tragedy of King Richard III”

The First and second parts of “King Henry IV”

“The Life of King Henry V”

“The Famous History of the Life of King Henry VIII”

Romantic Dramas

“Pericles, Prince of Tiro”

“Cymbeline”

“As You Like It”

“The Winter’s Tale”

“The Tempest”

Tragedies

“Titus Andronicus”

“Romeo and Juliet”

“Hamlet, Prince of Denmark”

“Othello, the Moor of Venice”

“King Lear”

“Macbeth”

Roman Tragedies

“Coriolanus”
 “Julius Caesar”
 “Antony and Cleopatra”

Poems and Sonnets

The monologue of Hamlet

To be, or not to be: that is the question:
 Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
 The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,
 Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,
 And by opposing end them? To die: to sleep;
 No more; and, by a sleep to say we end
 The hart-Ache and the thousand natural shocks
 That flesh is heir to, 'tis a consummation
 Devoutly to be wish 'd. To die, to sleep:
 To sleep: perchance to dream: ay, there 's the rub;
 For in that sleep of death what dreams may come
 When we have shuffled of this mortal coil,
 Must give us pause. There 's the respect
 That makes calamity of so long life;
 For who would bear the whips and scorns of time,
 The oppressor 's wrong, the proud man 's contumely,
 The pangs of dispriz 'd love, the law 's delay,
 The insolence of office, and the spurns
 That patient merit of the unworthy takes,
 When he himself might his quietus make
 With a bare bodkin? who would fardels bear,
 To grunt and sweat under a weary life,
 But that the dread of something after death,
 The undiscover 'd country from whose bourn

No traveler returns, puzzles the will,
 And make us rather bear those ills we have
 Than fly to others that we know not of?
 Thus conscience does make cowards of us all;
 And thus the native hue of resolution
 Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought,
 And enterprises of great pith and moment
 With this regard their currents turn awry,
 And lose the name of action.

Монолог Гамлета в переводе Н.В. Лозинского

Быть или не быть – таков вопрос
 Что благородней духом — покоряться
 Пращам и стрелам яростной судьбы
 Иль, ополчась на море смут, сразить их
 Противоборством? Умереть, уснуть—
 И только; и сказать, что сном кончаешь
 Тоску и тысячу природных мук,
 Наследье плоти,—как такой развязки
 Не жаждать? Умереть, уснуть.—Уснуть!
 И видеть сны, быть может? Вот в чем трудность;
 Какие сны приснятся в смертном сне,
 Когда мы сбросим этот бранный шум, —
 Вот что сбивает нас; вот где причина
 Того, что бедствия так долговечны;
 Кто снес бы плети и глумленья века,
 Гнет сильного, насмешку гордеца,
 Боль презренной любви, судей медливость,
 Заносчивость властей и оскорбленья,
 Чинимые 'безропотной заслуге,
 Когда б он сам мог дать себе расчет
 Простым кинжалом? Кто бы плелся с ношей,
 Чтоб охат и потеть под нудной жизнью,
 Когда бы страх чего-то после смерти —
 Безвестный край, откуда нет возврата
 Земным скитальцам,— волю не смущал,
 Внушая нам терпеть невзгоды наши

И не спешить к другим, от нас сокрытым?
 Так трусами нас делает раздумье,
 И так решимости природный цвет
 Хиреет под налетом мысли бледным,
 И начинанья, взнесшиися мощно,
 Сворачивая в сторону свой ход,
 Теряют имя действия. Но тише!
 Офелия?—В твоих молитвах, нимфа,
 Все, чем я грешен, помяни.

A sonnet

XC

Then hate me when thou wilt; if ever, now;
 Now, while the world is bent my deeds to cross,
 Join with the spite of fortune, make me bow,
 And do not drop in for an after – loss:
 Ah! do not, when my heart hath ‘scap ‘d this sorrow,
 Come in the rearward of a conquer ‘d woe;
 Give not a windy night a rainy morrow,
 To linger out a purpos ‘d overthrow.
 If thou wilt leave me, do not leave me last,
 When other petty griefs have done their spite,
 But in the onset come: so shall I taste
 At first a very worst of fortune ‘s might;
 And other strains of woe, which now seem woe,
 Compar ‘d with loss of three will not seem so.

Уж если ты разлюбишь, – так теперь,
 Теперь, когда весь мир со мной в раздоре
 Будь самой горькой из моих потерь,
 Но только не последней каплей горя!
 И если скорбь дано мне превозмочь,
 Не нанеси удара из засады.
 Пусть бурная не разрешится ночь
 Дождливым утром – утром без отрады.
 Оставь меня, но не в последний миг,
 Когда от мелких бед я ослабею.

Оставь сейчас, чтоб сразу я постиг,
 Что это горе всех невзгод больнее.
 Что нет невзгод, а есть одна беда –
 Твоей любви лишиться навсегда.

Task:

1. What is the idea of the sonnet you have read?
2. Tell the class the contents of one of Shakespeare's plays.

DANIEL DEFOE (1660-1731)

Daniel Defoe, the great English writer of the 17th century was born in London, in the family of wealthy parents. Daniel got a good education. He had good knowledge of history, mathematics, geography knew several languages: French Italian, Spanish, Latin and ancient Greek. His father wanted him to become a priest. But young Defoe did not like this profession. refused to be a priest, and for many years he was a merchant. He visited many countries: France, Spain, Italy, among others. Then he became a journalist. He started writing late. At first, he wrote several political pamphlets and the first one appeared in 1701 and brought him fame. For one of the pamphlets, he was put into prison, but then one of the Ministers of the Queen decided to use the talent of the writer. Defoe was set free and allowed to publish his newspaper.

Defoe wrote numerous pamphlets, novels, historical works.

One of his most famous novels-Robinson Crusoe-appeared in 1719. The novel is about the adventures of a real man, Scotch, Alexander Selkirk by name who lived on a desert island.

At the end of his life fortune turned it back on him. He died in poverty, quite alone, far away from his wife and many children.

Robinson Crusoe

Part I.

My name is Robinson Crusoe and I was born in the City of York. I always wanted to go to sea. One day, when I was eighteen years old, I went to Hull. There I met a boy whom I knew. The boy's father was the captain of a ship. That boy said to me, "Rob, do you want to sail on our ship? We start for London today."

I was very glad, of course, and agreed at once. In the open sea we were caught in a terrible storm. Our ship struggled with the waves for a long time. Finally it went to the bottom and we were all thrown into the sea. A ship which was passing by sent a boat and saved us. In the morning we reached the shore.

I was very young then and soon forgot the terrible storm. I still wanted to be a sailor. I went to London. There I met the captain of a ship which was going to Africa. The captain was a very nice gentleman. We liked each other and soon became friends. The captain invited me to sail to Africa with him. Of course, I agreed with pleasure.

Our voyage to Africa was lucky. But when we came back to England, the captain died, and I had to go on my second voyage to Africa without my friend.

At first everything went well. The weather was fine and -the sea was calm. But not far from the shores of Africa we met a ship with a black flag. It was a pirate ship and the pirates attacked us. Our sailors fought bravely, but the pirates were stronger. Some of our men were killed, and the others were taken prisoner. When the pirate ship came to the port, the captain took me to his house and made me his slave.

I spent two years in the pirate captain's house.

Part II

When I opened my eyes, the storm was over. There was no wind and the sea was calm. Not far from the shore I saw our ships on the rock. I decided to swim to it and try to get some clothes and food. When I reached it, I climbed on board. First of all I saw was the ship's dog and two cats. The poor animals were glad to see me. I went to look for

food. I was very glad when I found a lot of food. There was bread, cheese and meat. then I walked around the ship to see what other things I could take with me. I found some tobacco, some clothes, and a large box of tools. I also found some guns and two swords.

To carry all these things to the shore, I made a raft from parts of the ship. It was hard work for one man and I was very tired when the raft was at last ready.

I put everything on the raft. Of course, the dog and the cats came with me. I found an old oar and started back

It was a difficult journey. There was a strong wind now, and the waves could overturn the raft any minute. At last I reached the shore. How glad I was!

But I still know nothing about the place where I was. There was a high hill not far away. I climbed to the top of that hill and saw water all around me. I could see no people or signs of people. So I was all alone on a desert island.

The next day I went to the ship again. This time I brought a bed and a sail out of which I made a tent. That night I slept on the bed in the tent and had a good rest.

I went to the ship every day and each time brought useful things like pieces of iron, planks, ropes, pens and ink, paper, some books, needles and thread, string, all the sails I could find, the captain's guns, his spy glasses and many other things.

On the thirteenth day there was a storm and the ship broke to pieces. When I looked at the sea, there was nothing on the rocks. I was glad that I had so many things from the ship in my camp.

Part III

I put up my tent by the side of the hill. I had a bed now so I could sleep quite well at night. But I was afraid of wild animals, so I did not feel safe in my tent.

The side of the hill near which my tent stood, rose up very steeply; It was like a wall. On the other three sides I drove two rows of tall posts into the ground. I filled the space between the two rows of posts with pieces of thick heavy rope from the ship.

So now my tent was surrounded by strong walls on all sides. I used a ladder to get in and out of my house. When I came home I pulled the ladder up after me. So I was quite safe when I was in my house.

The rains on my island were very heavy. When it rained water came in through the roof of my tent. I had to think of a way to make a better roof. I decided to make a very large tent out of the sails from the ship. Then I put my small tent inside the big one. In this way I was safe from the rain.

Every day I took my gun and went out to look for food. My dog always went with me. There were a lot of birds and wild goats on the island. My food was the meat of wild goats and birds which I shot with my gun. Sometimes I found birds' nests in the rocks, then I had eggs for my breakfast.

Once I shot at a young goat, but did not kill it. It could not run away because its leg was broken. I caught it and brought it home on a rope. I fed the goat and took care of it, and soon it became quite tame.

Part IV

Some years passed. Robinson tried to make his life on the island better. He was a skillful man and he and Friday – a savage whom he had saved from death – worked every day. He had two houses, a boat to sail along the shore, some tame goats which give him milk, and he could make butter and cheese. He even grew corn and made bread. And he was not alone any more. Friday was a good companion and helped him in everything.

But, of course, Robinson wanted to leave the island and go back to island. And now I am coming to the last part of my adventures on the island. One day Friday came and said, "I can see a boat!" I quickly ran up the hill and looked at the sea. I saw a boat with some people in it. They were towards the shore. And in the distance I could see a ship.

How glad I was! And yet I didn't run to the shore at once. Something told me to be careful. I did not know anything about the ship. It was like an English ship, but English did not usually come to these waters. Why was the ship here? Who were the people on board? Were they friends or enemies? What if it was a pirate ship?

I decided to watch the boat from my lookout. When it came to the shore, I saw eleven men in it. They were Englishmen.

Three of the men were prisoners. Their hands were tied behind their backs. The others pushed them out of the boat. The prisoners fell on their knees and began to talk. It was clear that they were asking for mercy.

The scoundrels left their prisoners under a tree and ran into the forest.

Some time passed and they did not return. Now, I thought, It was time for me to help these poor prisoners. They were very surprised when they saw me and Friday. "Don't be afraid" I said, "I am your friend. I watched your boat and saw how those scoundrels brought you to this island. I want to help you. Tell me who you are and what I can do for you."

"We have no time for a long talk", said one of the prisoners, "because the scoundrels may return any minute, and then they will kill all of us. But here is our story in a few words. I am the captain of that ship. This is my mate, and this is a passenger. The crew of the ship rose against us. At first they wanted to kill us, but then decided to leave us on this island. We thought it was a desert island, that's why we were surprised to see you here"

"Have they any guns?" I asked.

"Only two, and one of them is in the boat."

"Very well", I said. "We must hide and wait for them. I have guns. Shall we kill all of them?"

"There are two among them who are worse than the others," said the captain. "They must be killed. When they are dead, the others will do as I tell them."

"Listen, sir," – I said to the captain. "I shall do all I can to help you, but if you return to your ship, you must promise to take me and my men to England."

Of course, the captain promised. Then I gave guns, his mate and the other men, and we went to look for the scoundrels.

Questions and tasks

1. Speak about the life and works of Daniel Defoe.
2. What did the boy dream of ?
3. What happened during the first voyage ?
4. How did the young man get into captain's house ?
5. Where did the young man get all the things he needed ?
6. Describe "The house" the man lived in.
7. Whom did the man see one day ?
8. How did the prisoners get to the island?
9. Why did the man want to get to England?

JONATHAN SWIFT (1667 – 1745)

Jonathan Swift was the greatest satirical writer of his time. He was born in Ireland, in Dublin. His Father died before Jonathan was born. In his youth Swift lived in the house of a rich man, a diplomat named William Temple. Jonathan became his secretary. In 1669 William Temple died. Jonathan Swift became a priest. Soon he began writing satires and pamphlets. He joined the Party of Tory.

In 1714, after the death of Queen Ann, Swift returned to Dublin. He saw the hard life of the people of Ireland and felt very sorry for them. In his articles Swift criticized the English government for treating the Irish people so cruelly. Swift lived in Dublin till his death.

Everybody knows his famous book "Gulliver's travels". He wrote the book about the four travels to quite unusual countries. When the book first appeared, it was read with great pleasure by many people. For children the book was the one of wonderful adventures. Grown-up readers found in it a bitter satire on the Church, the English government and the Court.

Dublin – Дублин

wise – мудрый

just – справедливый

governing – правление

a root – корень

bitter – резкий

satire – сатира

“The Tale of a Tub” – сказки бочки
 a pamphlet - брошюра, памфлет.
 under the title – под названием
 “Gulliver’s Travels” – путешествие Гулливера

Questions and tasks:

1. What do you know about the life of Jonathan Swift?
2. What is the writer’s most famous book?
3. What is the idea of the book “Gulliver’s Travels”?
4. When do the events in the book take place?
5. What can you say about the style of Jonathan Swift?

Gulliver’s travels

Chapter III

It is the custom that every Wednesday (which, as I have before observed, was their Sabbath), the King and Queen, with the royal issue of both sexes, dine together in the apartment of his Majesty, to whom I was now become a great favourite; and all these times my little chair and table were placed at his left hand, before one of the salt-cellars, This prince took pleasure in conversing with me; inquiring into the manners, religion, laws and government and learning of Europe, wherein I gave him the best account I was able. His apprehension was so clear, and his judgement so exact, that he made very wise reflections and observations upon all I said. But, I confess, that after I had been too copious in talking of my beloved country; of our trade and wars by sea and lands; of our schisms in religion, and parties in the state; the prejudices in his education prevailed so far, that he could not forbear taking me up in his right hand, and stroking me gently with another, after a hearty fit of laughing, asked me whether I were a Whig or Tory? Then turning to his first minister, who waited behind him with a staff near as tall as the mainmast of the “Royal Sovereign”, he observed how contemptible a thing was human grandeur, which could be mimicked by such diminutive insects as I: “and yet”, said he I dare engage these creatures have their titles and distinctions of honour; they contrive little nests and burrows, that they call houses and cities; they make a figure and dress in equipage; they love, they fight, they dispute, they cheat, they betray.”

And thus he continued on while my colour came and went several times, with indignation to hear our noble country, the mistress of arts and arms, the scourge of France, the arbitress of Europe, the seat of virtue, piety, honour and truth, the pride and envy of the world, so contempuously treated.

Questions and tasks

1. What do you know about the life of Jonathan Swift?
2. What is the writer's famous book?
3. What is the idea of the book "Gulliver's Travels"?
4. Where do the events in the extract take place?
5. What can you say about the style of Jonathan Swift?

ROBERT BURNS (1759 – 1796)

Robert Burns is the national pride of Scotland. Robert Burns was born in a small clay cottage in Alloway, Ayrshire. He was born in the family of a small tenant farmer and grew up in poverty. Still a child, he had to do a man's work in the fields.

Robert Burns went to school when he was 6. He and his brother Gilbert attended school in turn, as their father couldn't pay for their education. Robert Burns' father and the neighbors invited a teacher, who taught their children mathematics, reading, writing, French and Latin. Shakespeare was one of the favorite writers of Robert Burns. His father died in 1784 and left the family penniless in debt. The family managed to rent a farm, but the things went from bad to worse.

Robert Burns was about to leave for Jamaica to work on a sugar-cane plantation, but he got a letter from scholars from Edinburgh. His first verses were highly praised and published. Then Robert Burns sold his farm and worked as a customs officer.

His sympathy for the Great French Revolution is well known. Burns is deeply aware of the dignity and equality of men. In his poetry we find rebelliousness, a dream of political justice and social equality, subtle humor and biting satire. He wrote epigrams on idle noblemen and composed tender lyrical verses as well.

An essential feature in the poetry of Burns is the inborn gift of quiet mirth and gaiety which brings with it a touch of fine irony.

The most popular poems by Burns are: “John Barleycorn”, “The Tree of Liberty”, “Jolly Beggars”, “My Heart’s in the Highlands”, and some others.

He died in poverty when he was only 37. His work ruined his health. 10000 people were at his funerals.

pride – гордость

clay – глина, глиняный

a tenant farmer – арендатор

penniless – без гроша

to be in debt – быть в долгу

a sugar-cane plantation – плантации сахарного тростника

to be aware of – знать о

rebelliousness – мятежность

justice – справедливость

equality – равенство

subtle – тонкий, утончённый

an epigrams – эпиграмма

essential – важный

a feature – черта

John Barleycorn – Джон Ячменное Зерно

The Tree of Liberty – Дерево Свободы

Jolly Beggars – Весёлые Нищие

My Heart's in the Highlands

My heart's in the Highlands, my heart is not here,
My heart's in the Highlands a-chasing the deer;
A-chasing the deer, and following the roe
My heart's in the Highlands wherever I go.

Farewell to the Highlands, farewell to the North,
The birthplace of the valour, the country of worth;
Wherever I wander, wherever I rove,
The hills of the Highlands for ever I love.

Farewell to the mountains high covered with snow;
Farewell to the straths and green valleys below;
Farewell to the forests and wild-hanging woods;
Farewell to the torrents and loud-pouring floods.

Questions and tasks:

1. When and where was Robert Burns born?
2. What education did he get?
3. Who was his first teacher?
4. When did Burns publish his first poems?
5. What are the main ideas of Burn's poems?
6. Speak about the life of Robert Burns.
7. Recite one of Burn's poems.

SIR WALTER SCOTT (1771 – 1832)

Sir Walter Scott was born in Edinburgh on the 15th of August. His father was a lawyer. Walter was the 9th among the 12 children of the family. When not 2 years old the boy fell ill with a disease that left him lame for life. But in spite of it due to his will soon he became strong: climbed hills, rode a pony at a gallop. His grandparents used to tell him thrilling fairytales about adventures on the Scottish border, abbeys, old castles. Walter learned to love history of Scotland and liked to recite Scottish ballads and poems. When 15 he had a chance to meet Robert Burns.

He followed his father's footsteps and became a lawyer, practiced for 14 years. During his business trips he visited places of famous ballads. When 26 Sir Walter Scott married and bought a large estate not far from Edinburgh and built a fine house in the style of a castle. He made a sort of museum of Scots history and culture out of it. There was a great library in it, besides, he had a good collection of armory, rare objects, picture, weapons and the cross, that was carried by Mary, Queen of Scots (Mary Stewart) when she went to the scaffold.

Walter Scott's daily programme looked like this. He rose at 5, went to see his favorite horse and from 6 till 12 a.m. he sat writing. By 12 a.m. he was ready to entertain his guests; friends who often came to visit him. Walter Scott wrote both pros and poetry. His poem "The Lady of the Lake" was written in 1810. Sir Walter Scott is considered to be the founder of the historical novel in English literature. His historical novels are subdivided into 3 groups. The 1st group includes the novels, devoted to Scottish history, such as: "Guy Mannering, or the Astrologer" 1815, "Rob Roy" 1817, "The Bride of Lammermoor" 1819. The 2nd group comprises the novels, devoted to English history, namely: "Ivanhoe" 1820, "The Monastery", "The Abbot". The 3rd group consists of the novels about European history. "Quentin Durward" 1823, "Count of Robert of Paris" 1832 belong to this group of his novels.

Edinburgh – Эдинбург
 a lawyer – юрист
 a disease – болезнь
 lame – хромой
 due to – благодаря чему-то
 will – воля
 to recite – декламировать
 a castle – замок
 armoury – оружие
 rare objects – редкости
 a cross – крест scaffold
 – эшафот
 to entertain – развлекать
 historical novel – исторический роман

Questions and Tasks:

1. What do you know about Walter Scott's family?
2. What kind of book did Scott write?
3. What groups are his novels subdivided into?
4. Read the novel "Ivanhoe"
5. What can you say about the main characters of the novel.

GEORGE GORDON BYRON (1788 – 1824)

George Gordon Byron was born on the 22nd of January 1788 in London. His mother, Catherine Gordon was a Scottish lady of honorable birth and his father was an army officer. He died when George was only three. George was lame from birth, but due to his will he was an excellent rider, a champion swimmer, a boxer and did athletic exercises. The first ten years of his life he lived in Scotland and started studying in Grammar School in Aberdeen. Then he studied at Harrow School and when he was 17 he entered the Cambridge University and graduated from the University in 1808. He got the Master of arts Degree. In 1798 his grand-uncle died and he inherited the title of baron and the family estate of the Byrons in Nottinghamshire. And soon he moved to Newstead. Lord George Byron got the hereditary seat in the House of Lords. In 1809 he left England for journey for 2 years and

visited Portugal, Spain, Albania, Greece, Turkey. In 1812 he made a speech in Parliament about the unbearable conditions of life of workers. In 1815 he married miss Isabella Milbanke, but the marriage wasn't a happy one, they were not a match, and in 1817 they divorced. In 1817 Lord Byron left for Italy. He visited Venice, Genoa, joined the secret organization of Carbonari that was fighting for the independence of Italy against Austro-Hungarian Empire. In Greece Byron was struggling against the Turks for the independence of Greece. He died at Missolonghi in Greece of a fever in 1824 (18 IV) when he was only 36. His lungs were buried in Greece, but as it was not allowed to bury his body in Westminster Abbey, Byron was buried in his estate in Newstead.

Byron's creative active activities are connected with the Romantic movement in poetry. The earliest fruits of his travels were in the first cantos of "Childe Harold's Pilgrimage"(1812) which not only brought him immediate success but also remained among his most notable works. The poem established his reputation as a great poem of England. Between 1813 and 1816 he wrote "Oriental Tales", "The Giaour", "The Corsair", "Lara". His famous poem "Don Juan" was written in the period of 1819-1824.

honorable birth – благородного происхождения
 to be lame from birth – быть хромым от рождения
 a rider – наездник
 Master of arts Degree – степень магистра искусств
 to inherit – наследовать
 family estate – семейное поместье
 hereditary seat – наследственное место
 Portugal – Португалия
 Spain – Испания
 Albania – Албания
 Turkey – Турция
 Greece – Греция
 to be a match – быть парой
 Venice – Венеция
 Genoa – Генуя
 Carbonari – карбонарий

the Romantic movement – движение Романтизма
 a canto – песня

The list of Byron's Main Works

POEMS

“Childe Harold's pilgrimage”
 “Oriental Tales” (The Giaour”, “The Corsair”, “Lara”, “The Siege of
 Corinth” and others)
 “The prisoner of Chillon”
 “Manfred”
 “Cain”
 “Heaven and Earth”
 “Don Juan”

She walks in Beauty

I

She walks in Beauty like the night
 Of cloudless climes and starry skies
 And all that's best of dark and bright
 Meet in her aspect and hereyes.
 Thus mellowed to that tender light
 Which Heaven to gaudy day denies.

II

One shade the more, one ray the less
 Had half impaired the nameless grace
 Which waves in every raven tress
 Of softly lightens o'er her face;
 Where thoughts serenely sweet express,
 How pure, how dear their dwelling-place.

III

And on that cheek, and o'er that brow
 So soft, so crem, yet eloquent
 The smiles that win, the tints that glow
 But tell of days in goodness spent,
 A mind at peace with allbelow,

A heart whose love is innocent.

Questions and tasks:

1. Speak about the biography of George Gordon Byron.

CHARLES DICKENS (1812 – 1870)

Charles Dickens was born in 1812 at Portsmouth, where his father was a clerk in the Navy Pay Office. But Dickens didn't live long in Portsmouth. When he was about four years of age his family moved to Chatham, and the five years he spend there were the happiest of all his boyhood. He was the oldest of a large family, eight in all, and his father, a happy-go-lucky, irresponsible man (the original of Mr. Micawber in David Copperfield), was, like Mr. Micawber, always "waiting for something to turn up". What schooling Dickens had, he got at Chatham at a small day-school, and from his mother, who was a well-educated woman.

In 1821 the Dickens family moved to Camden Town, London, into "a mean, small house". Mr. Dickens was heavily in debt and didn't know which way to turn for many. The few possession that they had were sold one by one, but things got on better, and finally Mr. Dickens was taken to the Marshalsea Prison, London, for debt. You will find the Marshalsea fully described in Little Dorrit. Dickens knew it only too well from bitter experience, for when all the goods had been sold, Mrs. Dickens and the younger children went to the prison, too, to join the father. Meanwhile, Charles had got a job in an underground cellar at a blacking factory a Old Hungerford Stairs in the East End of London. This was the most unhappy time of all his life. He was lonely and hungry (though later he got his breakfast and supper in the prison and so was better fed).

He was able to leave the blacking factory and he entered a lawyer's office in London's Inn. He learned shorthand and was able to do same reporting in the House of Commons for newspapers. Finally, in

1834, he was taken on the staff of a newspaper, the Morning Chronicle, and his life – work of writing had really begun.

In 1833 Dickens had a number of papers published under the title Sketches by Boz, but it was in 1836 that he rose to fame as suddenly and as unmistakably as Scott had done. A firm of publishers, Chapman and Hall, had a number of pictures by a humorous artist, Seymour, and they wanted to get some short articles to illustrate them so that pictures and articles could appear together in magazine in fortnightly parts. Someone suggested that the young newspaper reporter, Charles Dickens, might do the job. It was a job after his own hearth. He poured out novel after novel – Oliver Twist, Nicholas Nickleby, The Old Curiosity Shop, A Christmas Carol, David Copperfield (perhaps the greatest work of all), A Tale of Two Cities – these are but a few of the more famous. At the same time he was editing newspapers and magazines, visiting America, Italy, Switzerland, Paris; giving readings from his books to huge crowds of people and writing constantly. It was the excitement of these readings (this excitement and the applause of his listeners was what he loved) and the strain of his continual work that brought about his sudden death in 1870. He had asked that his burial should be quite simple, but the whole nation wanted to give him the highest honour they could, and so he lies buried in Westminster Abbey, but as he wished it, with nothing on the stone except his name, “Charles Dickens”.

Navy Pay Office – адмиралтейство

Portsmouth – Портсмут

Marshalsea Prison – долговая тюрьма

cellar – кладовка, чулан

a blacking factory – фабрика

shorthand – стенография

staff – штат

to rise to fame – подняться к славе

fortnight – 2 недели

to edit – редактировать

The list of Works

- "Sketches by Boz" (1831)
- "The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club" (1836)
- "Nicholas Nickleby " (1838-39)
- "The Old Curiosity Shop" (1841)
- "American Notes" (1842)
- "Martin Chuzzlewit" (1843)
- "Dombey and Son" (1847)
- "David Copperfield" (1850)
- "Bleak House" (1852-53)
- "Hard Times" (1854)
- "Little Dorrit" (1855-57)
- "Our Mutual Friend" (1864-65)
- "Great Expectations" (1860-61)

The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club

This work at once lifted Dickens into the foremost rank as a popular writer. The humoristic style of the narration does not prevent Dickens from exposing the ugly spots of life in the country with biting satire.

On the 13th of May 1827, following the unanimous decision of the members of the Pickwick Club, Mr. Pickwick, its president, and his friends set out to travel about England with the purpose of studying the life in the country. They are asked to report to the Club from time to time accounts of their observations of characters and manners, and of the whole of their adventures.

Chapter V

A short one-Showing Among Other Matters, How Mr. Pickwick Undertook to Drive, and Mr. Winkle to Ride; and How They Both Did it

Mr. Pickwick found that his three companions had risen and were waiting his arrival to commence breakfast which was ready laid in tempting display. They sat down to the meal and broiled ham, eggs, tea,

coffee and sundries began to disappear with a rapidity which at once bore testimony to the excellence of the fare and the appetites of its consumers.

"How about Manor Farm," said Mr. Picwick. "How shall we go?"

"We had better consult the waiter, perhaps," said Mr. Tupman, and the waiter was summoned accordingly.

"Dingley Dell, gentlemen—fifteen miles, gentlemen, cross-road—postchaise,

Sir?"

"Post-chaise won't hold more than two," said Mr. Pickwick.

"True, Sir, beg your pardon, Sir. Very nice four-wheel chaise, Sir—seat for two behind—one in front for the gentlemen that drive-oh! Beg your pardon, Sir—that'll only hold three."

"What's to be done?" said Mr. Snodgrass. "Perhaps one of these gentlemen like to ride, Sir," suggested the waiter, looking towards Mr. Winkle, "very good saddle horses, Sir—any of Mr. Wardle men coming to Rochester, bring'em back, Sir."

"The very thing," said Mr. P. "Winkle, will you go on horse-back?"

The waiter retired, the breakfast concluded; and the travellers ascended to their respective bedrooms, to prepare a change of clothing, to take with them on their approaching expedition.

"Let'em go," cried the hosier. "Hold him in, Sir," and away went the chaise, and the saddled horse, with Mr. P. on the back of the one, and Mr. Winkle on the back of the other, to the delight and gratification of the whole inn yard.

"What makes him go sideways?" said Mr. Snodgrass in the bin to Mr. Winkle in the saddle.

"I can't imagine," replied Mr. Winkle. His horse was going up the street in the most mysterious manner—side first, with his head towards one side of the way, and his tail to the other.

Mr. P. had no leisure to observe either this or any other particular, the whole of his faculties being concentrated in the management of the animal attached to the chaise, who displayed various peculiarities, highly interesting to a by stander, but by no means equally amusing to

anyone seated behind him. Besides constantly jerking his head up, in a very unpleasant and uncomfortable manner, and tugging at the reigns to an extent which rendered in a matter of great difficulty for Mr. P. to hold them, he had a singular propensity for darting suddenly every now and then to the side of the road, then stopping short, and then rushing forward for some minutes, at a speed which it was wholly impossible to control,

"What can he mean by this?" said Mr. Snodgrass when the horse had executed this manoeuvre for the twentieth time.

"I don't know," replied Mr. Tupman, "it looks very like shying, don't it? Mr. S., was about to reply, when he was interrupted by a shout from Mr. P. "Woo" said the gentleman, "I have dropped my whip."

"Winkle," cried Mr. S. as the equestrian came trotting up on the tall horse, with his hat over his ears, and shaking all over, as if he would shake to pieces, with the violence of the exercise. "Pick up the whip, there's a good fellow." Mr. P. pulled at the bridle of the tall horse till he was black in the face, and having at length succeeded in stopping him, dismounted, handed the whip to Mr. Pic., and grasping the reigns, prepared to remount.

Now whether the tall horse, in the natural playfulness of his disposition, was desirous of having a little innocent recreation with Mr. Winkle, or whether it occurred to him that he could perform the journey as much to his own satisfaction without a ride, as with one, are points upon which we can arrive at no definite and distinct conclusion. By whatever motives the animal was actuated, than he slipped them over his head, and darted backwards to their full length.

Tasks:

1. Speak about the biography of Charles Dickens.
2. Speak about one of Dickens's novels.

OSCAR WILDE (1854-1900)

Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde was born in Dublin in 1854, the son of a brilliant surgeon and a poetess. He was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and then at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he won the Newdigate prize for Poetry. He became the leader of an aesthetic movement and was famous for the brilliance of his wit and conversation—qualities made permanent in such plays as "Lady Windermere's Fan" and "The Importance of Being Earnest".

It was Oscar Wilde who put forward "art for art's sake" theory. He is the author of four plays: "Lady Windermere's Fan", "A Woman of No Importance", "An Ideal Husband" and "The Importance of Being Earnest".

He is the author of some exceedingly poetical tales, such as:

"The Rose and the Nightingale", "The Happy Prince", "The Devoted Friend" and "The Selfish Giant".

He is also the author of the novel "The Picture of Dorian Gray". Oscar Wilde did not raise any social problems in his works. His characters are all people of the upper circles. The upper class characters, good or bad, move about gracefully exchange witty phrases, they are engaged in clever and refined conversation, even if it is about a scheme how to rob their government, then those works by Oscar Wilde that possess some social problems have an air of being away from reality.

"An Ideal Husband" was written in 1895. It is a comedy revealing the corruption of a statesman who uses his official position to enrich himself. Sir Robert Chiltern has made his fortune by selling a government secret to a foreign banker who paid him handsomely for it. He makes a brilliant political career.

The interesting plot of Oscar Wilde's plays and his humour help the plays to stay on the stages of the theatres for more than 90 years. Oscar Wilde is a master of paradoxes:

- Questions are never indiscreet, answers sometimes are.
- Fashion is what one wears oneself. What is unfashionable is what other people wear.
- To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance. (From "An Ideal Husband")

The Devoted Friend

1

Once upon a time there was a young man whose name was Hans. He had a very kind heart. He lived alone in a little house. He had a lovely garden where he worked every day. His garden was the best in the village and there were a lot of beautiful flowers in it.

Little Hans had a devoted friend, big Hugh the Miller. Indeed, the rich Miller was so devoted to little Hans, that he always picked some flowers or took some fruit when he was passing Hans's garden. "Real friends must have everything in common," the Miller used to say, and little Hans smiled and felt very proud that he had a friend with such noble ideas.

Sometimes the neighbors were surprised that the rich Miller never gave little Hans anything, but Hans never thought about these things. He worked and worked in his garden. In spring, summer and autumn he was very happy. But in winter he had no flowers or fruit to sell at the market, and he was often very hungry and cold. He was also very lonely, because the Miller never came to visit him in winter.

"There is no good in my going to see little Hans in winter." The Miller used to say to his Wife, "because when people are in trouble, you must leave them alone. That is my idea about friendship, and I am sure I am right. So I shall wait till spring comes, and then I shall go to see him, and he will give me a large basket of flowers, and that will make him happy."

The Miller's wife sat in her comfortable arm-chair near the fire. "It is very pleasant," she said, "to hear how you talk about friendship."

"But can't we invite little Hans to our house?" said the Miller's son. "If poor Hans it is trouble, I will give my supper and show him my white rabbits."

"What a silly boy you are!" cried the Miller. "If Hans comes here and sees our warm fire and good supper, he may get envious, and envy is a terrible thing. Besides, maybe he will ask me to give him some flour, and I cannot do that! Flour is one thing and friendship is another."

"How well you talk," said the Miller's Wife.

2

When spring came, the Miller said that he would go to see little Hans.

"What a good heart you have!" cried his Wife. "You always think of others. And don't forget to take the big basket for the flowers, not the little one."

Little Hans was very glad to see his friend. The Miller said that they had often talked about Hans in winter.

"It was kind of you," said Hans. "I was afraid that you had forgotten me."

"Hans, I am surprised at you," said the Miller. "Friendship never forgets! But I am afraid you don't understand that. How lovely your flowers are!"

"Yes, they are lovely," said Hans, "and I am glad that I have so many. I can sell them at the market and buy back my wheelbarrow."

"Buy back your wheelbarrow? Have you sold it?"

"Yes, I had to sell it because I had no money for bread. But now I want to buy it back."

"Hans," said the Miller, "I will give you my wheelbarrow.

It is a little broken, but I will give it to you. I know it is very generous of me, and many people will think that it is foolish, but I am not like other people. I think that a friend must be generous, and, besides, I have a new wheelbarrow for myself. Yes, I will give you my wheelbarrow."

"Oh, that is very generous of you," said little Hans. "I can easily repair the wheelbarrow, because I have a plank of wood in the house."

"A plank of wood!" said the Miller. "That is just what I want for the roof of my barn. There is a large hole. Give me your wheelbarrow, and now you will give me your plank. And here is my basket. Fill it with flowers, make it quite full."

"Full?" said Hans. "Then I shall have no flowers for the market."

"Really," said the Miller, "I have given you my wheelbarrow, and you don't want to give me flowers! We are friends, aren't we? And friends are never selfish; they have everything in common."

"My best friend!" cried little Hans. "Please take all my flowers!" And he ran and picked a lot of flowers and filled the Miller's basket.

"Good-bye, little Hans," said the Miller and went home. He carried the on his shoulders and the basket in his hand.

The next day, when Hans was busy in his garden, the Miller came again. He was carrying a large sack of flour on his back.

"Dear little Hans," said the Miller, "I want to ask you to carry this flour to the market and sell it for me."

"Oh," said Hans, "but I am very busy today. I must water all my flowers and I must cut all my grass."

"Really," said the Miller. "I am going to give you my wheelbarrow, and you don't want to sell my flour for me. I don't think real friends are like that. It's unfriendly to refuse."

"Oh, don't say that!" cried little Hans. "I don't want to be unfriendly," He took the sack of flour and went to the market. It was friendly." He took the sack of flour and went to the market. It was a very long way and the sack was heavy, and little Hans was very tired. But he sold all the flour and reached home in the evening. He went to bed at once.

"It has been a hard day," he said to himself, "but I am glad I did not refuse the Miller. He is my best friend, and, besides, he is going to give me his wheelbarrow."

The next morning the Miller came to get the money for the flour and asked Hans to repair the roof of his barn. Hans wanted to go and work in his garden. But he remember that the Miller was his best friend and that he was going to give him wheelbarrow, so he could not refuse. He went with the Miller and worked for him all day long.

"What a good time I shall have in my garden tomorrow," he said to himself as he went home.

But it so happened that Hans always did something for the Miller every day and he had no time to work in his garden. "But," he used to say, "he is my best friend, and, besides, he is going to give me his wheelbarrow, and that is very generous of him."

So little Hans worked for the Miller, and the Miller said many beautiful things about friendship.

3

One evening, when Hans was sitting in his room, somebody knocked loudly at the door. Hans opened it and saw the Miller with a lantern in his hand.

"Dear little Hans," cried the Miller, "I am in great trouble and want your help. My little boy is ill and I must call the doctor. But the doctor lives so far away and it is such a bad night! I think that it would be much better if you went for the doctor instead of me. You know I am going to give you my wheelbarrow, so, of course, you must do something for me."

"Certainly!" cried little Hans. "I will go for the doctor at once. But you, must give me your lantern; the night is very dark."

"Oh, I cannot do that," said the Miller. "It is my new lantern and I am afraid you will break it."

"Never mind," said little Hans. "I can go without it." And he went for the doctor.

It was really a very bad night. A strong wind was blowing and it was raining hard. In three hours Hans reached the doctor's house and knocked at door.

"Who is there?" cried the doctor.

"Little Hans, doctor."

"What do you want, little Hans."

"The Miller's son is ill, and the Miller asks you to come at once."

"All right," said the doctor. And he put on his boots, took his lantern, got on his horse and rode off. Little Hans walked behind him. But, of course, he could not go as fast as the horse.

What a terrible storm it was! The night was so black that little Hans could see nothing and he lost his way. In the dark he fell into a deep pit full of water and was drowned.

Discussion.

1. What did the Miller always do when he passed by Hans's garden?
2. What were the people of the village surprised at?
3. Who was really kind; the Miller or his son? Prove it.
4. What words of the Miller show how greedy he was/
5. What were all the jobs little Hans had to do for the miller?

¹ it would be much better if you went-было бы гораздо лучше если бы ты пошел.

6. What do you think about this friendship?
7. Using the text, prove that Hans was drowned because of the Miller.

JOHN GALSWORTHY (1867-1933)

Galsworthy began to write rather late. He was 27 when he made his first attempt. It was not very successful. It was only after he got well acquainted with Chekhov's and Maupassant's works that he became really interested in literature. He was greatly influenced by Russian authors. He knew little about Russia but in 1891 when he was still quite young, his father, who was a well-to-do person, sent him on business to the Cri-mea. John Galsworthy did not speak Russian, he stayed in Russia a short time, never came to St. Petersburg or Moscow and his first impressions of Russia were of something very romantic and foreign. But it awoke interest in him. He read many books by Russian authors in English translations. In the days of Pushkin and Gogol the English public knew very little about Russian literature but towards the end of the last century Russian writers became well-known in England. Galsworthy ranked the Russian realists first among the great authors of his time. "The men we swear by—he wrote,—are Tolstoy, Turgenev, Chekhov, Maupassant, Flaubert, France." In 1920 he wrote to his friend: "Turgenev is the man of all others I should like to have known." Turgenev influenced him strongly in the manner of painting characters and scenes of nature. Galsworthy's masterpiece is "The Forsyte Saga".

In the latter part of his life he wrote other novels: "Maid in Waiting" (1931) and "Over the River" (1933), which form "The End of the Chapter." Galsworthy also wrote many stories and 28 plays. Being a great artist he gave a comprehensive and vivid picture of contemporary England. His works reveal the author's great knowledge of man's inner world. He penetrates into the subtlest windings of the human heart.

The Forsyte Saga

In the greatest work "The Forsyte Saga" Galsworthy gives the story of several generations of the Forsyte family who lives between the years 1886 and 1926. At the same time it is the history of the English bourgeois society.

The first part of the book appeared in 1906. It was "The Man of Property". The idea of creating a series of novels portraying the history of the English mode of life occurred to him while writing "In Chancery". It took Galsworthy 22 years (1906-1928) to accomplish this monumental work. The story of the Forsyte family is presented in 2 trilogies each consisting of 3 novels and 2 interludes. The title of the first trilogy—"The Forsyte Saga" is generally applied to the whole epic. The parts of the epic are the following;

"The Forsyte Saga":

"The Man of Property (1906),
 "The Indian Summer of a Forsyte (Interlude, 1917),
 "In Chancery" (1920),
 "Awakening" (Interlude, 1921),
 "Lo Let" (1921);

"A Modern Comedy":

"The White Monkey" (1924), "A Silent Wooing" (Interlude,
 1927),
 "The Silver Spoon" (1926),
 "Passers-by" (Interlude, 1927),
 "Swan Song" (1928).

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW (1856 – 1950)

George Bernard Shaw is one of the greatest playwrights, and one of the most important representatives of critical realism in English literature, and a brilliant satirist besides.

He was born on July 26, in a poor middle-class family in Dublin, Ireland. When twenty, Shaw after trying his hand at different jobs arrived in London. He was fond of literature and at that time his favorite author was Shelley. In London he turned to teaching, Bernard Shaw gained a thorough grounding in music at home. In 1885 he became a music critic of the “Star”.

Between 1879-1883 he wrote his articles on fine art exhibitions, theatrical performances, concerts, published in different newspapers and magazine. His career as a dramatist began later on, in 1892, when he produced his first play “Widower’s House”. Shaw was a reformer of the theatre and the road which led him to success was a difficult one. It was only in 1904 that one of Shaw’s plays was first performed in London West End.

In fact, he was famous abroad long before he was famous in England. The first performance of his play “Widower’s Houses” was quite a sensation. He was attacked both by the critics who called him cynical. But in spite of this Shaw attacked injustice and hypocrisy all his life with particular force. He was deeply interested in Russian culture. Shaw highly appreciated Tolstoy, with whom he corresponded, and also Chekhov and Gorky. To the end of his days he remained a devoted friend of the Russian people.

Such works as “Pygmalion”, “Widower’s Houses”, “Mrs. Warren’s Profession”, “The Serenade”, “Arms and the Man”, “The Man and the Superman”, “You Never Can Tell” are considered to be the best works of his, known all over the world. Bernard Shaw is especially famous for his peculiar biting satirical plays.

“My way of joking consists of telling the truth”, Shaw says. He is very famous for his critical realism.

playwrights – драматург
 critical realism – критический реализм
 middle-class – средний класс
 cynical – циничный
 in spite of – несмотря на
 hypocrisy – лицемерие
 to appreciate – ценить

Plays

“Pygmalion”
 “Widower’s Houses”
 “Mrs. Warren’s Profession”
 “The Serenade”
 “Arms and the Man”
 “The Man and the Superman”
 “You Never Can Tell”

Tasks: Make up wrong Statements.
 Speak about Bernard Shaw’s life.

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